



### DATES



**INTERNATIONAL  
YOUTH DAY**  
**12 AUGUST**

The General Assembly on 17 December 1999 in its resolution 54/120, endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared International Youth Day.

The Assembly recommended that public information activities be organized to support the Day as a way to promote better awareness of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, adopted by the General Assembly in 1995 (resolution 50/81).

**Theme for IYD2008:  
YOUTH AND CLIMATE CHANGE: TIME FOR ACTION**

The selection of this theme for IYD 2008 is in recognition of the fact that climate change has already begun to devastate communities and deepen the effects of poverty and hunger. This situation complicates the challenges that youth face. However, young people are increasingly adding their voices to the call for action on climate change.

### COUNCIL OF EUROPE NEWS

**Yavuz Mildon: "Involving young people in democratic processes must begin at grassroots level"**

Strasbourg, 11.08.2008 – "It is in our territorial communities where young people first experience democracy and feel most involved in democratic processes," stated Yavuz Mildon, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, on the occasion of International Youth Day, 12 August.

"The Congress strongly believes that much more could and should be done for greater involvement of young people and their increased active participation in local and regional life: This remains an important challenge for local and regional elected representatives.

"To this end, the Congress proposes lines of action to stimulate young people's interest, commitment and involvement in the life of our cities and regions, in particular by making full use of the European Charter on Participation of Young People in Municipal and Regional Life.

"The Charter offers local and regional politicians a flexible and coherent framework in the priority areas such as the promotion of youth employment, education and professional training, sport and leisure activities. Practical tools for youth participation such as training courses, advice centres, youth projects and using local media created for and by young people are strong components to encourage their active involvement. The setting up of a network of youth councils, as it has been done in Bosnia-Herzegovina, is one example of good practice at the national level.

"We must emphasise full integration of young people and promotion of their participation in community life and democratic decision-making processes. More youth involvement today means more democratic stability tomorrow," stressed President Mildon.

### NGO's REVIEW



#### **The First Children's Embassy in the World "Megjashi"**

The First Children's Embassy in the World "Megjashi" (FCEWM) - Republic of Macedonia was founded on the 29th of April 1992 in Skopje. FCEWM is a World Association for protection of children and does not belong to any government or party.

The First Children's Embassy in the World unites the children of Macedonia with the children of the world. It co-operates with all international organizations that are interested in the care and protection of children.

The basic task of the First Children's Embassy in the World "Megjashi", is to carry out the United Nations Declaration and Conventions on Children's Rights.

Megjashi strives for respecting the child's personality through protection of their rights, advocating for their best interests, connecting children from different backgrounds and enriches their lives with events that make the childhood secure and fruitful.

It also strengthens the NGO movement for protection of children rights in the Republic of Macedonia, by developing the voluntary approach in its operation and by exercising concern for the Convention of Children Rights.

[www.childresembassy.org.mk](http://www.childresembassy.org.mk)

### EUROPEAN COMMISSION NEWS



2007 — European Year of Equal Opportunities for All

#### **Training manual for diversity management**

This training manual for diversity management has been prepared for the European Commission in the framework of the "Anti-Discrimination and Diversity Training VT2006/009" project, set up and funded by the European Commission.

Between autumn 2007 and spring 2008 more than 1000 companies across Europe attended the diversity training seminars organised for the European Commission. The training manual provides concepts and practical tools which can help companies to try out or deepen their understanding about diversity management

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